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 a copy of this leaflet.

## EDITORIALS\*

### FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON MEDICAL EDUCATION†

*Another Medical Report on Important Factual Information.*—An advance copy of a 560-page volume—The Final Report of the Commission on Medical Education—has recently come into our hands. This particular volume owes its origin to the action taken in the year 1924 by the Association of American Medical Colleges. The intervening years have been utilized in the gathering and compilation of the data presented. The Final Report presents these with comments and conclusions of the Commission thereon.

The personnel of this Commission, which was under the chairmanship of A. Lawrence Lowell, president of Harvard University, had as its director of study Willard C. Rappelye, M. D., and included among its other members the following: Walter L. Bierring, George Blumer, Hugh Cabot, Samuel P. Capen, William Darrach, David L. Edsall, Sir Robert Falconer, Henry G. Gale,

\* Editorials on subjects of scientific and clinical interest, contributed by members of the California Medical Association, are printed in the Editorial Comments column, which follows.

† From the office of the Director of Study, 630 West 168th Street, New York City.

Michael F. Guyer, Walter A. Jessup, Lafayette B. Mendel, William Allen Pusey, Olin West, Ray Lyman Wilbur and Hans Zinsser.

The well known universities, medical schools and examining boards, to which the above members are attached, may be taken as an indication of the seriousness and thoroughness of their studies. The work of this Commission was financed

"by contributions from most of the medical schools in the United States and Canada, the American Medical Association, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation, and the Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation."

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*Scope of Contents of the Report.*—Some of the chapters have the following headings:

"The Public Aspects of Medicine; Medical Needs; The Supply and Distribution of Physicians; The Internship; Medical Licensure; Opinions Regarding the Medical Training; Premedical Education; and The Cost of Medical Education."

More than 150 pages are also given over to a total of 161 interesting and valuable tables.

The Introduction gives a brief survey of the growth of medical schools on the North American continent, commencing with the medical schools of the universities of Mexico, and of Lima, Peru, which antedated other American schools of higher learning or of scientific studies by something over 150 years. Some paragraph and sentence quotations follow:

"There were five medical schools in 1800. They were the medical departments of the University of Pennsylvania (1765), Columbia College, formerly King's College (1767), Harvard University (1782), Dartmouth College (1798), and Transylvania College (1799). The number of schools increased to sixty-six by 1860. Twenty of these schools disappeared during the Civil War, but by 1900 the number had grown to 160. . . .

" . . . The Association of American Medical Colleges was organized in 1891. . . .

" . . . The American Medical Association collected and published statistics on the medical school situation in this country in 1900. In 1904 it created a permanent Council on Medical Education. . . .

" . . . The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching published its monumental study by Mr. Abraham Flexner in 1910. The searching report obtained valuable publicity for the campaign for improvement in medical education. It also attracted the attention of philanthropists to the financial needs of university medicine and marked the beginning of substantial contributions to the program. . . ."

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*Extended Excerpts in the Miscellany Department of California and Western Medicine.*—In the Miscellany Department of this issue are printed some excerpts from the Report, on topics having a bearing on medical economic subjects which have been discussed in this JOURNAL during the past several years. It is hoped these will be of value to readers of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. In this connection the suggestion may be made in regard to this volume as was given concerning the "Final Report of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care," namely, that the book might well have a place in the library of every physician who is interested in the type of